

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB227

Hearing Date: Thursday February 05, 2009
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Rogert
One Liner: Adopt the Interior Designers Certification Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

Aye:	5	Senators Avery, Giese, Janssen, Price, Sullivan
Nay:	3	Senators Karpisek, Pahls, Pirsch
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Proponents:

Senator Kent Rogert
Wayne Drummond
Erin Stokes
Nancy Novak
Wyatt Tuell

Representing:

Introducer
Self
Interior Design Coalition of Nebraska
Interior Designers
IDCN

Opponents:

Krista Kester
Kevin Clark
Jennifer Klein
Steve Nability

Representing:

Board of Engineers and Architects
American Institute of Architects
Professional Engineers Coalition
Greater Omaha Chapter-National Association of the Remodeling Industry, and Nability Remodel & Const. Company
National Kitchen & Bath Association
American Council of Engineering Companies of Nebraska

D'Lea Becker
Jackie McCullough

Neutral:

Melinda Pearson

Representing:

Nebraska Board of Engineers & Architects

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 227 creates the Interior Designers Certification Act.

Under the act, the Board of Interior Designers (board) is created. The duties of the board include: administering and enforcing the act; adopting a code of ethics; establishing requirements for the examination, education and training of applicants; adopting rules and regulations; establishing fees; approving expenditures of funds; establishing standards for continuing education; and maintaining list of all certified interior designers.

Fees will be sufficient to defray the costs of administering the act and will not be less than \$100 or more than \$300 for certification, renewal, or reinstatement of certification.

In order for an applicant to receive certification which entitles him or her to use the title of "certified interior designer" the applicant must satisfy the following requirements:

1. successfully passing the National Council for Interior Design Qualification examination or its equivalent;
2. completing four years of interior design education from a Council for Interior Design Accreditation accredited program or a substantially equivalent program;
3. completing a minimum of two years of full-time work experience;
4. signing a copy of the code of ethics adopted by the board; and
5. submitting the certification fee.

When the applicant has complied with the qualifications for certification to the satisfaction of a majority of the board, the board will record the applicant's name and address in the roster of certified interior designers. The certificate will be valid until January 1 of the following year.

When applying for renewal of certification, the certified interior designer will submit proof of completing the continuing education requirements and the renewal fee.

The bill outlines the procedure for the board to grant certification by reciprocity, to licensed engineers and architects, and to revoke, suspend or refuse to issue a certificate.

Beginning on the operative date of this act (January 1, 2010) through December 31, 2012, the board may issue an interior design certificate to a person who does not meet the requirements to receive a certificate under the following situations:

1. the person submits the fee and provides proof of fifteen years of work experience deemed satisfactory to the board;
or
2. submits proof of successful completion of Section 1 of the National Council for Interior Design Qualifications examination, a degree or diploma from a program with a minimum of 60 credit hours in interior design and a combination of six years of education and work experience.

Fees received under this act will be remitted to the Interior Designers Certification Cash Fund. The fund will be used to defray the cost of the act and will be administered by the Board of Engineers and Architects.

Bill Avery, Chairperson